

Minutes of the Cambridge Bicycle Committee Meeting May 2012

Present: Cara Seiderman, John Goodman, Randy Stern, Andrea Williams, Catharine Hornby, Taylor Walker, Carole Sousa, Madeleine deBlois, Jim Wilcox (DPW), Amy Linne, Tegin Teich, Ellen Aronson, Viola Augustin, Peter Stokes, Matthew Schrumpf

New City Staff was introduced to the Committee

John Pelletier (CitySmart Intern) talked about Urban Bicycle Classes the city is offer to people new to biking in a city or want to brush up on their bike skills. Jen Lawrence is the new Sustainability Planner and will be doing outreach around promoting sustainable transportation, including bicycling.

April Minutes were not yet distributed

Central Square Planning Study

Stuart Dash from the CDD presented the current progress on the [Central Square Planning Study](#). The study started by looking at these questions: What are the amenities of Central Square and who are they for? Who goes there? What kind of retail fits there? How can affordable housing be preserved? Could the square be built up to fill in some of the gaps? Can the square be better connected to the surrounding neighborhoods? How to improve the streetscape? Are new developments feasible?

Matthew Schrumpf spoke about the last planning meeting. The committee discussed the following ideas / questions / concerns: Are there bicycle improvements that could be made to support pedestrian improvements? How is the transportation in this area being studied? What is the condition of the bicycle lanes in central square? A student at Northeastern did a study that concluded the bicycle lanes were blocked fifty percent of time, perhaps the planning team should review this study? Are cycle tracks part of the discussion? Better signage is needed at pedestrian crossings. Could part of Central Square be car free like Downtown Crossing? How do you get families to Central Square, indoor parks? Side streets and smaller streets parallel to Mass Ave should be part of the study. These street are a possible alternate bike route. Could the planning team produce some renderings of what Central would look like with improved Bicycle amenities?

The planning team will come to a cohesive vision for Central Square in the next couple months. Stuart recommended that the committee put some of our questions and ideas in a letter to the planning team.

String Theory Bike Ride

Final logistics for the May 19th bike ride were discussed. The committee okay'd the idea of cross promotion for the Historical Society's event the following day.

Commuter Race

The May 14th "Race" from Davis to Kendall will have an event at the end at the Genzyme building.

Kendall Square Planning Letter

Tegin Teich and Taylor Walker wrote a letter on the behalf of the committee regarding the Planning Study: [Kendall Square Letter](#)

Huron Ave

Catharine Hornby and Ellen Aronson gave an update from the last Huron Ave meeting. There will be 3 meetings in June (26, 27 and 28). The main important meeting for people to attend is the June 26 public meeting.

DPW Update

The Concord Ave project is substantially complete, punchlist is ongoing. A survey will be conducted in the spring or summer to evaluate usage.

The 5 year plan has recently been updated: DPW five year plan

Development Projects & Other Projects

160 CambridgePark Drive Pedestrian Bridge was discussed

Zoning Changes for Bicycle Parking will be discussed at the next planning meeting on 5/15, the Bicycle committee should be represented.

Mass DOT Bridges

BU Bridge, no public announcement has been made about removing the bike lane from the bridge but it is being discussed internally. The committee opposes that change.

Officers

The committee elected Randy Stern as chair, Catharine Hornby as vice-chair and Taylor Walker as secretary.

Summer Potluck

Tentatively scheduled for the August meeting, at David Quinn's abode.

Hubway

Planning for the Hubway stations in Cambridge is underway. They will be coming soon.

Next Committee Meeting Wednesday June 13th